

and an international array of food, shopping and festivities spread across the 3-day extravaganza.

Although the Monterey Jazz Festival is mostly recognized for its importance to the legacy of jazz, it is also devoted to keeping jazz alive in future generations and has donated its proceeds to musical education since its beginning. In fact, every spring, the Monterey Jazz Festival holds the "Next Generation Festival" which invites top student bands from across the country to compete in several music competitions, attend clinics and concerts, and even audition for the Next Generation Jazz Orchestra. By conferring so many educational scholarships to deserving students, the Monterey Jazz Festival displays its commitment to music and education. After 50 years of incredible jazz performances, the Monterey Jazz Festival continues to keep the tradition alive.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to recognize an organization that is so deeply devoted to the perpetuation and education of jazz. I am excited for this year's celebration and look forward to many more years of jazz in the Monterey Peninsula.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE MERCHANT MARINES

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 31, 2007*

Ms. WOOLSEY, Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the great forgotten heroes of our country, the United States merchant marines who bravely served our Nation during World War II. For too long, these servicemen have been denied the recognition they deserve and the benefits they have earned, and I am proud to support H.R. 23, the Belated Thank You to the Merchant Mariners of World War II Act, which rights this historic wrong.

During World War II, civilians and merchant seamen served alongside our Armed Forces in the Pacific and Atlantic oceans to bring vital goods, materials, and manpower to the theaters of combat. Many former merchant seamen returned to serve during the war while others left school to volunteer in the merchant marine. At the end of the war, the merchant mariners were instrumental in safely transporting millions of members of the Armed Forces back home to the U.S. Although these men were not considered part of our Nation's "active duty" military service, their missions were characterized by more than 9,000 casualties as a result of attacks from enemy forces, the highest of any branch of armed service.

As a grateful nation, we cannot deny the heavy sacrifices endured by these important members of the greatest generation. The merchant mariners deserve compensation for having been refused access to G.I. bill benefits at the conclusion of World War II and a pension as a reward for their service. H.R. 23 will establish Merchant Mariner Equity Compensation Fund to provide monthly payments of \$1,000 to eligible members of the merchant marine or their survivors who served during World War II. We can no longer ignore our responsibility to repay those who have defended and preserved our Nation.

Madam Speaker, I am proud that the House passed H.R. 23 and sent the bold message

that we will support all of America's veterans. We owe the merchant mariners so much, and it's about time we give them the thank you they deserve.

#### IRAN SANCTIONS ACT OF 1996 AMENDMENTS

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 30, 2007*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I ask that the following letters on the bill H.R. 957 from the Committee on Ways and Means, the Committee on Financial Services, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs be included during the debate on H.R. 957.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,  
*Washington, DC, July 13, 2007.*

Hon. TOM LANTOS,  
*Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing concerning H.R. 957, to amend the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 to expand and clarify the entities against which sanctions may be imposed. This bill was introduced on February 8, 2007, and was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition, to this Committee, among others. The bill has been reported by the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

There have been some very productive conversations between the staffs of our committees, during which we have proposed some changes to H.R. 957 that we believe help clarify the intent and scope of the measure. My understanding is that there is an agreement with regard to these changes, and so in order to expedite floor consideration, I agree to forego further consideration by the Committee on Financial Services. I do so with the understanding that this decision will not prejudice this Committee with respect to its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation. I request your support for the appointment of conferees from this Committee should this bill be the subject of a House-Senate conference.

Please place this letter in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD when this bill is considered by the House. I look forward to the bill's consideration and hope that it will command the broadest possible support.

BARNEY FRANK,  
*Chairman.*

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,  
*Washington, DC, July 27, 2007.*

Hon. TOM LANTOS,  
*Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing regarding H.R. 957—to amend the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996, to expand and clarify the entities against which sanctions may be imposed—which was reported by the House Foreign Affairs Committee on May 22, 2007, and is expected to be on the suspension calendar next week.

As you know, the Committee on Ways and Means has jurisdiction over import matters, such as the import ban and restrictions on imports imposed by the Iran Sanctions Act and the International Emergency Powers Act. Accordingly, the provisions of H.R. 957 fall under the Committee's jurisdiction.

There have been some very productive conversations between the staffs of our committees, during which we have proposed some changes to H.R. 957 that I believe help clarify

the intent and scope of the measure. My understanding is that there is an agreement with regard to these changes.

In order to expedite this legislation for floor consideration, the Committee will forgo action on this bill and will not oppose its consideration on the suspension calendar. This is done with the understanding that it does not in any way prejudice the Committee or its jurisdictional prerogatives on this, or similar legislation in the future.

I would appreciate your response to this letter, confirming our understanding with respect to H.R. 957, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the RECORD.

I look forward to the bill's consideration on the floor and hope that it will command the broadest possible support.

Sincerely,  
CHARLES B. RANGEL,  
*Chairman.*

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,  
*Washington, DC, July 27, 2007.*

Hon. CHARLES B. RANGEL,  
*Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 957, which amends the Iran Sanctions Act to expand and clarify the entities against which sanctions may be imposed, and for other purposes.

I appreciate your willingness to work cooperatively on this legislation and the mutually agreed upon text that is being presented to the House. I recognize that the bill contains provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means. I agree that the inaction of your Committee with respect to the bill does not in any way prejudice the Committee on Ways and Means or its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation in the future.

I will ensure that our exchange of letters be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Cordially,  
TOM LANTOS,  
*Chairman.*

#### ON THE RETIREMENT OF PAUL CULLINAN

**HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 31, 2007*

Mr. SPRATT. Madam Speaker, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin and I would like to gratefully acknowledge the expert assistance that the U.S. Congress has received from Paul Cullinan at the Congressional Budget Office. Paul is retiring from congressional service in August, and this institution will sorely miss him.

Dr. Cullinan arrived at CBO in 1981, and has contributed to a vast range of policy analyses, budget projections, and legislative cost estimates over the past 26 years. But more important than the amount and variety of such work is the consistently high quality of that work and Paul's continual dedication to providing the Congress with thorough and timely analysis.

For the past 13 years, Paul Cullinan has served as the Manager of CBO's Human Resources Cost Estimates Unit, a role in which he has excelled and one that has allowed CBO to provide critical support to the consideration of numerous and varied pieces of legislation including efforts to reauthorize and extend higher education programs and the Food